
Park Authority 2005 Summer Camp Inclusion Fact Sheet

All requests for ADA accommodations must be made 10 days in advance of your start date

To effectively accommodate your son/daughter, FCPA staff will provide the following accommodations:

- Camp staff training: facilitation styles, communication methods, behavior redirection, modification/adaptation of activities, etc.
- Consultation from Specialists for the purposes of facilitating effective participation in programs, otherwise defined as helping to problem solve participation issues.
- Provide sign language interpreters.
- Ensure physical access to all sites and program offerings.
- One to one support is not provided. Trained inclusion staff are available on a limited basis to help facilitate ADA accommodations and may include multiple customers at a given location.

What is the staff to customer ratio?

- RecPac Targeted Inclusion Summer Camps: 1 inclusion staff per 8 children with disabilities. General staff ratios remain 1:20 at these sites. Inclusion staff remain at these locations all 6 weeks of the camp.
- RECenter Summer Camps: 1 inclusion staff per location to provide support to staff and customers with disabilities in multiple camps at the site; general staff ratios for RECenter camps are 1:10.
- RecPac/Park/Specialty/School Based Camps: ADA accommodations are provided for these camps as well, however, inclusion staff support, in the form of a leisure coach, is based on need as determined by the ADA Coordinator. If a Leisure Coach is provided to facilitate transition/participation, support is provided for a maximum of 3 of 5 days for 1 week camps and 6 of 10 days for 2 week camps. General staff ratios vary, depending on the type of camp except for the RecPac summer camps - 1:20.

Important Note: Depending on the overall needs of the customers with disabilities, the number of camps operating at the site, and the age group assignments, additional inclusion staff may be added to effectively support the inclusion experience.

When is Inclusion Staff Support Withdrawn?

- With the exception of the RecPac targeted inclusion sites, if a customer with a disability demonstrates the ability to participate at a level of independence similar to that of his/her peers without disabilities, inclusion staff support is typically withdrawn. Participation levels are continually monitored to ensure this level of independence is maintained. The ADA Coordinator or Inclusion Specialist will discuss the withdrawal with the parent/guardian prior to ending services. The withdrawal of support is based on feedback received from general and inclusion staff, the parent, and the ADA Coordinator and Inclusion Specialist. An appeals process is available in the event the parent disagrees with the staff assessment for withdrawing support and a consensus cannot be reached.

How are children grouped during activities?

- RecPac Camps: children are grouped by grade level (1st - 3rd graders and 4th - 6th graders).
- Park/Specialty/RECenter Camps: typically by age, 6-7, 7-8, 9-10, etc.

What is the environment like?

- Camp programs are generally very stimulating: loud and active with a variety of large and small group activities; structured and unstructured activities planned throughout the day with a varying number of camp participants. Camps located in FCPA parks are subject to extended periods of time in “hot” weather conditions.
- Quiet areas are generally provided for children needing some time to “chill” and engage in briefly individualized activities such as reading; participants are encouraged to bring their own resources if a “chill time” is conducive to your child’s needs.

Will the staff give out medications or handle personal care or assist with feeding?

- Staff are provided with basic medication administration training and will administer medication or medical procedures with proper authorization from the Health Department and the family’s physician.
- Staff will not assist with personal care/hygiene needs or feeding. Staff can facilitate a bathroom schedule upon request and help unwrap or prepare foods.

What are the ages of the children at the camp?**RecPac:**

- The age range of children are 6-13 (grades 1-6)
- Eligibility is based on school year requirements
- Your child must have completed kindergarten and through graduation of 6th grade

RECenter/Park/Specialty Camps:

- Eligibility varies with the camp.

How will other children accept my child (will they be nice/friendly/open)?

- Staff are trained to facilitate your child’s participation in group activities and to encourage/foster social relationships with both children with and without disabilities
- Generally speaking, children with disabilities have very few issues developing appropriate friendships with other children at the camp location. Staff can implement Sensitivity Awareness activities to help ensure appropriate interactions or eliminate inappropriate behaviors on the part of other children.
- Staff promote the buddy system to help develop a cooperative group environment.

How will staff support and accommodations be determined?

- Parents receive a telephone call during the week prior to your child’s program start date to review the child’s needs.
- Based on information gathered from the phone interview, the Pre-inclusion Survey, and the Professional Information Sharing Form (if completed in time by the customer’s teacher), staff will develop a written Accommodation Plan that details specific needs and strategies.
- Parents/guardians are then presented the plan upon arrival the first day of camp to review the plan or make changes in the plan if needed.

Where are the locations of the camps?

- RecPac targeted inclusion sites are typically located at various schools throughout Fairfax County (call 703- 324-8727 to inquire).
- RECenter locations are Oak Marr, Audrey Moore/Wakefield, Spring Hill, Providence, Mt. Vernon, Lee District and South Run
- Specialty & Park camps vary depending on camp selection.

Is transportation provided to and from the program site?

- The FCPA does not provide transportation for summer camp programs

How do I make arrangements for enrollment and accommodations?

- Request formal accommodations after registering for the camp by contacting the ADA Coordinator directly or checking the ADA accommodations box on the registration form.
- Upon receipt, complete and return the Pre-inclusion Survey.
- Your child's application request and intake information are reviewed.
- You will be contacted prior to the start of the camp to review the Accommodations
- If accommodations are required you must submit the application and request the accommodations 10 days in advance of the start date.

FCPA Code of Conduct

All customers enrolled in Fairfax County Park Authority programs agree to meet and sign the rules *of conduct* document. ADA Accommodations provide customers with disabilities support to meet the rules of conduct. The ADA Coordinator reserves the right, on behalf of the agency, to terminate participation in the program if the customer cannot follow the rules of conduct. Every effort will be made to provide appropriate accommodations.

- Must be able to maintain personal care without support of FCPA staff or FCPA volunteers
- Stay with his/her assigned group
- Respect others (listening & following directions; using appropriate language; keeping hands and feet to self)
- Maintain self control (anger management)
- Meet the prerequisite skills for the program (if required for participation)

Additional questions/concerns about Inclusion?

- Contact Gary Logue, ADA Coordinator, at (703) 324- 8563, TTY (703) 803-3354

Need additional summer camp opportunities (contained camps)?

Contact Therapeutic Recreation Services at (703) 324-5532, TTY at (703) 222-9693